

MINUTES ZONING ADMINISTRATOR PUBLIC HEARING MEETING REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 20, 2009

<u>CALL TO ORDER:</u> Zoning Administrator Barbara Meerjans

PRESENT: Zoning Administrator Barbara Meerjans

ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Barbara Meerjans, Zoning Administrator

Susan Summerford, Planner II

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

Item 1. SIERRA SOLAR POWER – 45635 NORTHPORT LOOP E – (PLN2009-00188)

– to consider a Zoning Administrator Permit to allow the use of hazardous materials exceeding quantities permitted without a permit pursuant to Sections 8-21501 and 8-22143.3 of the Fremont Municipal Code for a new solar cell manufacturing facility located in the Industrial Planning Area. This project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per Guideline 15301, reuse of an existing industrial building.

Project Planner – Susan Summerford, (510) 494-4543, ssummerford@fremont.gov

Steve Beese, the applicant, spoke and explained the process and the chemicals used.

Laura Fan, a concerned citizen, spoke and described her concerns regarding increased traffic, restaurants in the vicinity, and the Chinese community that patronizes her business is concerned and will likely stop coming to her studio. She would like the Zoning Administrator to reconsider the proposal.

Barbara Meerjans, Zoning Administrator, explained the history of the industrial area and permitted process.

Mr. Beese responded directly to Ms. Fan and offered for the CEO or one of the two Vice Presidents, who are Chinese, to come to her business and speak to the patrons. Ms. Fan agreed that would assuage her and her patrons' fears.

THE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR TOOK THE FOLLOWING ACTION ON ITEM #1: HOLD PUBLIC HEARING.

AND

FIND THAT THE PROJECT IS CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) UNDER

GUIDELINE 15301 OF THE CEQA CLASS 1 EXEMPTIONS BECAUSE IT IS A REUSE OF AN EXISTING INDUSTRIAL MANUFACTURING FACILITY.

AND

FIND THAT THE PROPOSAL TO STORE, USE AND TRANSPORT HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AS A COMPONENT OF THE PROCESSING OF SOLAR CELLS IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE CITY'S EXISTING GENERAL PLAN. THESE PROVISIONS INCLUDE THE DESIGNATIONS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES SET FORTH IN THE GENERAL PLAN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY CHAPTER AS ENUMERATED WITHIN THE STAFF REPORT.

AND

APPROVE THE LEVELS OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ABOVE WHAT ARE PERMITTED, AS SHOWN ON EXHIBIT "A", SUBJECT TO FINDINGS AND CONDITIONS IN EXHIBIT "B".

ITEM #1 WAS APPROVED, BASED ON CONDITIONS AND SUBJECT TO FINDINGS.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

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APPROVED BY:

Barbara Meerjans

Zoning Administrator